

A1 and

compressed between a first surface and a second surface, to transfer heat between the first and second surfaces.

2. Canceled.

A2

3. (Amended) The thermal interface material of Claim 1, wherein the fibers include one of the following: a metal, a metal compound, and a metal alloy.

4. The thermal interface material of Claim 1, wherein the fibers are a non-metal.

5. The thermal interface material of Claim 4, wherein the non-metal includes carbon or graphite.

A3

6. (Amended) The thermal interface material of Claim 1, further comprising:
an adhesive applied to the fibers, the adhesive affixing the fibers in position on the first surface until the fibers are compressed against the first surface.

7. The thermal interface material of Claim 1, wherein the pattern includes a random pattern.

8. The thermal interface material of Claim 1, wherein the pattern includes a stacked pattern.

9. The thermal interface material of Claim 1, wherein the pattern includes a woven pattern.

10. (Amended) A method, comprising:

positioning a plurality of thermally conductive fibers, the fibers being in a pattern, between a first surface and a second surface; and

pat compressing the plurality of fibers between the first and second surfaces, the compression deforming the fibers into contact with each other and into contact with the first surface and second surface, to transfer heat between the first and second surfaces.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein the first surface is a thermal plate and wherein the second surface is a heat source.

12. The method of Claim 10, wherein the pattern includes a random pattern.

13. The method of Claim 10, wherein the pattern includes a stacked pattern.

14. The method of Claim 10, wherein the pattern includes a woven pattern.

A5 15. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, further comprising:

As
CND

encompassing the fibers in a thermal medium, the thermal medium deforming to fill irregularities when compressed against a first surface.

16. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the fibers include one of the following: a metal, a metal compound, and a metal alloy.

17. The method of Claim 10, wherein the fibers are a non-metal.

18. The method of Claim 17, wherein the non-metal includes carbon or graphite.

19. The method of Claim 10, further comprising:
applying an adhesive to the fibers to affix the fibers in position on the first surface until the fibers are compressed against the first surface.

20. (Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a plurality of thermally conductive fibers defining a pattern positioned against a first surface; and
means for to transfer heat between the first surface and a second surface, the means including compressing the fibers into contact with each other and with said first surface and said second surface.

A6

21. The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the first surface is a thermal plate and wherein the second surface is a heat source.

A7 22. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the fibers are encompassed in a thermal medium, the thermal medium deforming to fill irregularities when the fibers are compressed against the first surface.

23. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the fibers include one of the following: a metal, a metal compound, and a metal alloy.

24. The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the fibers are a non-metal.

25. The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the non-metal includes carbon or graphite.

26. The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the pattern includes a random pattern.

27. The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the pattern includes a stacked pattern.

28. The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the pattern includes a woven pattern.